

NEWS

Geological Society of Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



FIRST CLASS



Ethel A. Shimek - Editor
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Minneapolis, MN 55408

RETURN REQUESTED

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Mem. Geological Survey
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St. Paul, Minn. 55108

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BOARD DOINGS - ELECTIONS

Officers for 1981 were elected at the October Board meeting.

They are: Henry Gangl, president; Dwight Robinson, vice-president; Jay Hutchinson, secretary; Elaine Fink, treasurer.

At the annual meeting Dale Johnson, Elizabeth Ooten and Conrad Nelson were elected for a first term, and Dwight Robinson was re-elected for a second term.

Report from Public Service Committee
Sr. Joan Kain, Chmn.

The display at Elm Creek Rest Stop is now being installed. It is mainly a map with text on "How Did We Get our Lakes", by Marcia Gunville.

A number of us have served on this cmte which started work in 1971 under Sam Mayo. The Department of Transportation has cooperated with G.S.M. as well as the Minn Geological Survey. Jim Ryerson of D.O.T. designed the rest stop and included our display in the plan.

In former years G.S.M. placed cast bronze plaques describing points of geologic significance at places throughout the state. The display ideas are a different way of informing the public about local geology.

To mark the installation as memorable we are thinking of an event at Elm Creek site early in the New Year. Some kind outdoor picnic or coffee party to which reps from Geological survey, D.O.T., and Jim Ryerson would be invited and not forgetting the press. Let us hear from you.

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FIELD TRIP

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August 2nd Field Trip. Led by Gerry Webers; to study Cambrian and Ordovician Strata of Minnesota.

At 8 o'clock on a fine summer morning about 40 people met in the parking lot at Macalester College and consolidated rides.

The first stop was at Taylor's Falls at about 10 A.M. We inspected the black rocks that are a prominent feature of the landscape. These are Baltic Keweenaw lava flows which welled-up from the mid-continent ridge thru a rift in the earth's crust. The rift was the result of a basic fault on the midcontinent ridge.

Discussion and observation established that the lava layers are almost horizontal, altho the rocks appear to be huge blocks with both horizontal and vertical cracks. At some places the basalt has little holes which held hot gasses and solidified as the lava cooled. Some of the holes are filled with quartz and other minerals called amigdules. These holes serve as indicators as they are at the top, and separate the strata from one another.

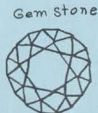
At other points great deep pot holes have been scoured out of the basalt by boulders carried by the river when it was draining glacial Lake Duluth.

The Mill Street Conglomerate Cliff is just West and South of Taylor's Falls, and may be reached by a short walk from the parking space above the picnic and campgrounds. The boulder cliffs were formed underwater by tidal waves in the ancient Cambrian Sea. Later sand was deposited and acted as a cement between the crevices of the rocks and boulders. They could have been off-shore islands or peninsulas. Small Cambrian fossils may be found in the sand stones there.

The flat area along the river, where the campground and picnic area is located, appears to be a flood plain of the St. Croix River. On the other side of the highway Curtain Falls Trail winds along the steep banks of the creek. The Curtain Falls are just below an unconformity between Cambrian and Precambrian strata. Some of us stayed below and just admired the beauty of this steep-sided creek valley. Small Trilobites can be found in the hunks of loose sandstone lying along the shore of the creek.

After the lunch break, we proceeded down the river to Stillwater to view another cliff. At the top of this cliff the contact between the St. Lawrence and Jordan formations may be found.

We continue south to Red Wing and Barne's Bluff. The green and buff cliff marks a fault where one side has slipped up or down from the other. Trilobites of a fair size (1") have been found in the sandstone there. (ye editor has one)



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MEET THE BOARD

Liz Ooten was born in Sabula, Ia. She earned a degree in Advertising Design from the University of Iowa, and a degree in Archaeology from the University of Minnesota. She has worked for local architects, ~~although is not employed~~ ~~although~~ although not presently employed.

Weaving and the Historical Society are other interests. Acquaintance with Bob Leacock led her to join GSM.

Elaine Fink was born and raised in St. Paul, earned BS and MS at University of Minnesota. She has worked at the University's physiology lab and is now in neurobiology. Further she has a part time writing job.

Her two children occasionally attend lectures. Origin of life interests her especially.

After a visit to Wisconsin Dells which fascinated her, she was not able to find any literature about those formations, until she joined our Society.

Henry Gangl, president, is an engineer with the Honeywell corporation. He attended Queen's College in New York and Manchester Institute of Technology, England; served in the Army Corps of Engineers during WWII, and has an active in politics.

A rock and mineral show at Brookdale in 1974 spurred his interest in GSM. He has been an active member ever since.

Conrad Nelson is a retired officer in the U.S. Air Force. His assignments included experimental test pilot, and fighter squadron commander. He holds degrees in aeronautical engineering from MIT (1941) and Cal Tech (1947 and 48).

At present he is involved in volunteer programs in the Minneapolis school system, Institute of Fine Arts and the Public Library.

He has been seen riding his bicycle, too.

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS:

David B. Dathe
N.I.U., Room 1141A, Grant Towers
DeKalb, IL 60115

Ron-Harriet Fraser 544-0723
801 City View Dr
Minnetonka, MN 55343

Claudia Hitchcock 926-8842
6616 W. Shore Dr.
Edina, MN 55435

Robert D. Kessen 529-3793
3114 Russell Ave No.
Mpls 55411

N. Prentice-Agnes G. Merrill 789-4595
2211 N.E. Grand St.
Mpls 55418

Wm. E.-Bernadine McAuley 644-2536
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7473 McKinley St.
Fridley 55432

William K-Jean T. Smith 545-3086
2439 Sherwood Hills Rd
Minnetonka, 55343

Mike R. Solveson 724-4195
4027 42nd Ave So.
Mpls 55406

Edward Stilson 559-1879
11741 Red Fox Dr.
Maple Grove 55369

Mike Wiplinger 455-5564
8448 E. Doane Tr
Inver Grove Hgts 55075

**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP NOW.**

LECTURE SERIES TO CONTINUE

Water and the Ground is the topic of four lectures by Dr. David Southwick in January and February.

The Oceans : Water's Last Retreat is the subject of the remaining three lectures by Dr. Tom Johnson.

Board Doings, cont

The next project for the cmte will be a more extensive display near Hudson, WI on I-94.

The board urges members to become involved in committee work. There are many opportunities to assist on field trips, lecture program planning, exhibits, membership, newsletter, hospitality as well as public service. It's a grand way to get better acquainted with some fine folks. Decide which area interests you and call Bob Handschin or any board member.

Also the board hopes members will spread the word about our lectures and field trips. We've recruited 4 memberships from an evening class at U. in geology. They were approached after the very successful field trip. People can be invited to the lectures and given an opportunity to join.

To promote fellowship at the lectures we have coffee, and the name tags at the door.

FROM THE EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

We wish to thank all the following members of this Society for their assistance with our exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair:

Conrad Nelson
Elaine Fink
Liz Ooten
Marjorie McGladrey
Don & Betty Wheeler
Alice Chapin
Ray Gilles
Vern & Vivian Bloomquist
Charles & Dorothy Howard
Ralph Novotony
Gail Easthouse
Ethel Shimek

Mary O'Connor
Georgette Pfannkuch
Bernadine Riske
Ann Jaworski
Les Collins
Don Ruffenak
Dick & Eva Selander
Sister Joan Kain
Mr. & Mrs. Puzak
Mary Kimball
Barb & Allen Lundgren
Bob Handschin

Financial Report

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA
Comparative Statements of Receipts & Disbursements
For the Years Ended December 31, 1979 and 1978

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>	
Dues	1979 \$	414.00	\$ 426.00	1978
	1980	670.00	538.00	1979
		\$ 1,084.00	\$ 964.00	
Coffee Fund		65.10	50.48	
Other Misc.		-	12.00	
		\$ 1,149.10	\$ 1,026.48	
Interest on Savings Accounts		223.76	242.16	
Total receipts		\$ 1,372.86	\$ 1,268.64	

Disbursements

Lecture Fees	\$	650.00	\$ 480.00
Annual Programs		107.28	96.30
Laboratory Fees			
(guarantee)		15.00	24.00
Newsletter		329.15	284.97
Membership Rosters			
(printing)		64.55	53.90
Membership Postage		-	31.58
Spring Banquet			
(net expense)		17.33	23.08
Bank Charges		23.56	18.95
Miscellaneous		10.97	29.96
		\$ 1,217.84	\$ 1,042.74
Public Service Projects		21.28	520.94
		\$ 1,239.12	\$ 1,563.68

Receipts in excess of
(or less than) dis-
bursements

\$ 133.74 (295.04)

Excess Deficit

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA
Comparative Statements of Financial Condition
As of December 31, 1979 and 1978

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1978</u>
Checking Account	\$ 314.72	\$ 32.44
Savings - Certificates		
106454 (transferred to		
checking acct.		
Feb. 2, 1979)	-	370.67
106456 (transferred		
\$400.00 to		
savings account		
March 6, 1979	3,207.96	3,403.20
Savings Account	417.37	-
Total Assets	\$ 3,940.05	\$ 3,806.31

CHANGES IN ASSETS

General Funds

Balance Beginning of Yr.	4,085.09	4,101.35
Receipts	1,149.10	1,026.48
	5,234.19	5,127.83
Funds Disbursed	1,217.84	1,042.74
Balance End of Year	4,016.35	4,085.09

Funds Allocated to

Public Service Projects

Balance Beginning of Yr.	(278.78)	\$ -
Interest Income	223.76	242.16
	\$ (55.02)	242.16
Funds Disbursed	21.28	520.94
Balance End of Year	\$ (76.30)	\$ (278.78)

Total Assets \$ 3,940.05 \$ 3,806.31

FIELD TRIP cont

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On State Highway 18, the Prairie duChien formation is exposed near the road. We found oolites (small shells), Dolomite and some algal mounds.

The St. Peter sandstone is exposed at spots along the river. We viewed this formation at Cannon Falls. The sandstone is 99% pure quartz, ellipsoidal-shaped and is frosted due to wind action on sand dunes. The St. Peter sandstone is used for glass making at many points along the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers.

Our last stop was at a roadside cut where we found many Ordovician fossils in the Decorah shale.

At sunset the caravan dispersed.

Address Changes

Earl Fore
4815 28th ave. So., #414
Mpls 55417

Floyd Borghorst
526 Otis Ave.
St. Paul 55104

Ellen Olson
5108 William Ave 925-0665
Mpls 55436

Margaret Paschke
2319 W. 7th St.
St. Paul 55116

Sophie Wojtysiak 874-6634
2508 10th Ave. So.
Mpls 55404

Renee Zurn
U/M Comstock Hall #412E
210 S.E. Delaware
Mpls 55414

Acknowledgment Harriet Fraser, typing; Jim Erickson, art;

Ann and Irene Jaworski, mailing.



REMINDER ...

Membership dues for 1981 may be sent to
Marjorie Mc Gladery, Rte. 1 Box 17F, Elko, Minn.
55108 or paid at the lecture.

Fees are: Adults - \$7.00, Husband and wife -
\$10.00, Students - \$2.00.

Bergstrom
~~_____~~
Kanivetky
✓ Keeler
✓ Olson



Minnesota Geological Survey
LIBRARY

JAN 1 1980

